

SWEDISH AGENCY FOR HIGHER  
EDUCATION SERVICES

OUR COMMITMENT TO SERVICE  
STARTS WITH OUR NAME





The Swedish Agency for Higher Education Services is a government authority with the prime directive of assisting Swedish higher education institutions with the admission process. We receive and process admission applications using digital means and determine which students have the qualifications necessary to be accepted into the course or programme they have applied for. Our agency has other important duties, such as the evaluation of foreign upper secondary school qualifications for those who wish to study or work in Sweden and the development and administration of digital information systems, most notably our in-house created admission system. We also provide other types of services to various organisations.

IN 2009, WE RECEIVED 818,000  
ADMISSION APPLICATIONS FROM SWEDEN  
AND THE REST OF THE WORLD.

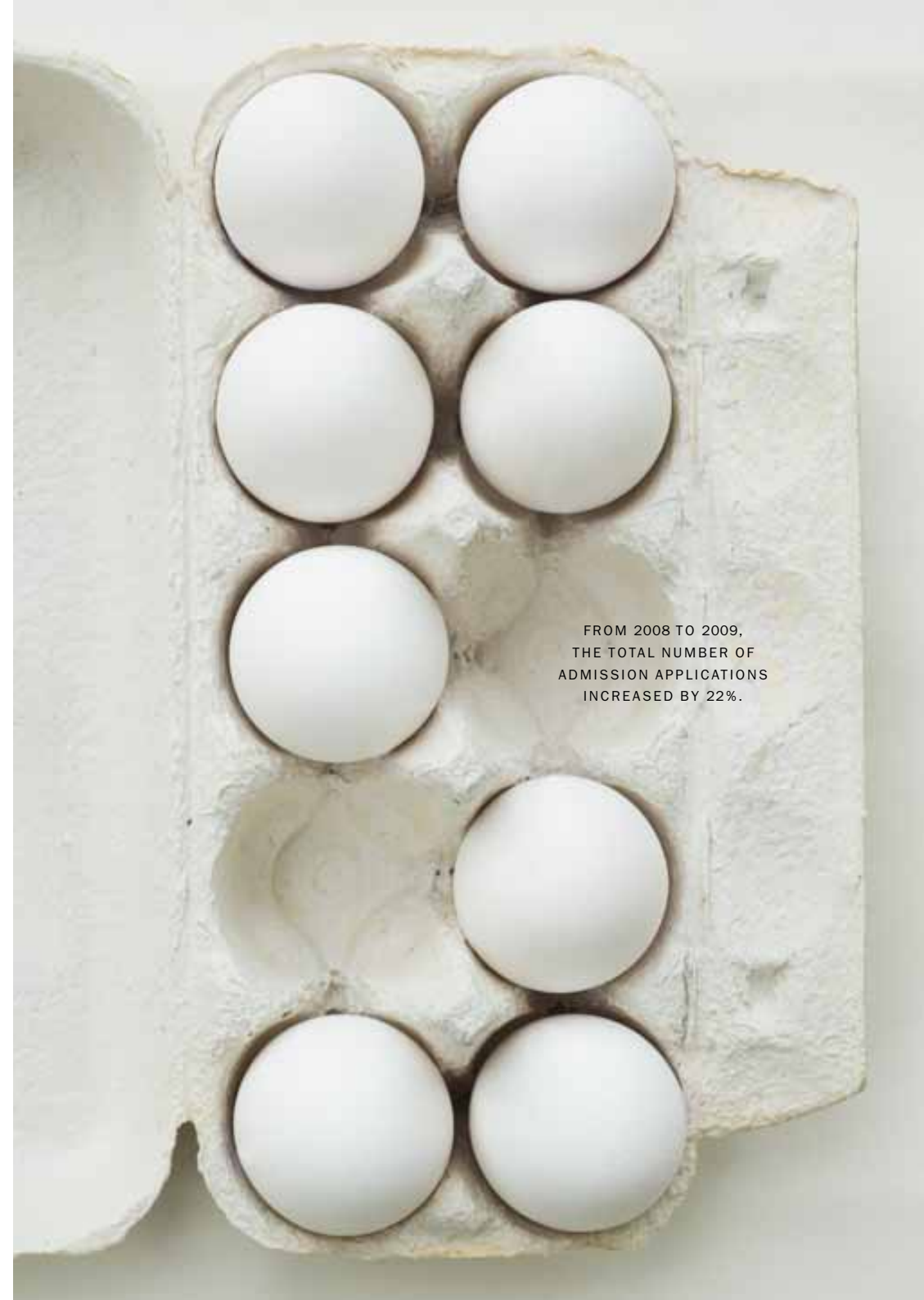
APPROXIMATELY HALF OF ALL ADMISSION  
APPLICANTS HAVE THE NECESSARY QUALIFICATIONS. HOW DO  
WE SEPARATE THEM FROM THE HALF WHO DO NOT?

What stands out with the admission process in Sweden is that a student can apply to virtually every university and university college in the country through one and the same medium.


Today, our admission system is almost completely digitized. Ninety-nine percent of applications come in to us through the web and more than half of these are processed completely electronically. This greatly simplifies administration, which in turn significantly reduces costs and shortens the time a student must wait before receiving a decision. Our system is very friendly to the environment, as the need for paper, envelopes and transport is kept to an absolute minimum.

Another of our functions is the dissemination of information about the admission process. We provide all of Sweden's upper secondary and college counsellors with the most up-to-date information and assist applicants in need of guidance. We recognize the importance of this service and have dedicated extra resources to its continued development.

Our duties also include the translation of foreign upper secondary qualifications, a service we provide free of charge. This service is critical to both our agency and higher education institutions in the accurate evaluation of student eligibility. It is also appreciated by those pursuing employment or other types of educational opportunities in Sweden.



FROM 2008 TO 2009,  
THE TOTAL NUMBER OF  
ADMISSION APPLICATIONS  
INCREASED BY 22%.



OUR EXPERTISE IN IT SYSTEMS IS A VALUABLE COMMODITY  
WE GLADLY SHARE WITH OTHERS.

We have developed a system that can receive and process applications for every higher education course and programme offered in the nation. Equally impressive is that the process is completely electronic. Our responsibilities also encompass the administration of the areas of our web portal, studera.nu, that pertain to admission information and application to universities and university colleges.

In addition to admissions, we also develop and administer other digital systems. One example is Ladok, which is used to gather information on the courses and programmes that students are registered for and their results. Other examples are The National Degree Project Pool, a meeting place for companies, organizations and university students; an application and registration system for the Swedish Scholastic Aptitude Test; and a database for Swedish upper secondary school qualifications.

WE HELP OTHERS SAVE MONEY ON THEIR PURCHASING.

Part of our mission is to procure goods and services, for higher education institutions as well as other areas of public administration. Our specialists provide consultation and general contract signing, freeing up the time and energy that our clients would normally have to spend on completing procurement agreements.

According to the Swedish National Financial Management Authority, our procurement division helps the Swedish government save approximately 3 million Euros each and every year.

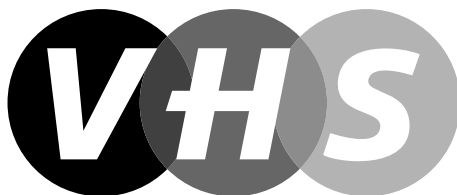
FOR THE AUTUMN SEMESTER 2009,  
NEARLY 99% OF ALL APPLICATIONS WERE MADE VIA  
THE WEB, ALLOWING A DRASTIC REDUCTION IN THE  
NUMBER OF PAPER CATALOGUES. SIMPLER, CHEAPER  
AND ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT –  
IN TODAY'S WORLD, THIS CAN MEAN ANYTHING FROM  
DECREASING PAPER USAGE TO WORKING CLOSELY WITH PEOPLE  
LOCATED ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE GLOBE.

Today, 99 % of all admission applications are submitted via the web – a process which drastically reduces the need for paper and transportation. Through our virtual organisation, we can work effectively and efficiently with 36 different institutes of higher education without anyone leaving their workplace. We are very close to fulfilling our vision of becoming what is currently referred to as an 'e-government'.

We have put much focus on developing clearly defined environmental goals for our agency and are educating our personnel in how to reach them through decreased use of energy, less airplane travel, increased web meetings and smarter copying and printing routines.

Without a doubt, there is still much left to accomplish and we are working continuously to decrease the size of our ecological footprint.



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HIGHER EDUCATION SERVICES

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